



# Freedom of Press

Information Resource Center, Public Affairs Section,  
U.S. Embassy Jakarta

## Looking Forward to World Press Freedom Day 2011

By Judith A. McHale, Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs.



Judith A. McHale

The United States welcomes the establishment of the World Press Freedom Day 2011 website, and hopes that individuals around the

world take time to reflect upon and discuss the important role a free press has in open, democratic societies and aspirants. All of us benefit from the incredible sacrifices journalists and citizen reporters make in the quest for freedom of expression.

We look forward to hosting World Press Freedom Day 2011 in Washington, DC, working with our partners: the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Center for International Media Assistance at the National Endowment for Democracy, IREX, and the United Nations Foundation. This year's World Press Freedom Day focuses on the theme **21st Century Media: New Frontiers, New Barriers**.

Throughout the Middle East, people are courageously shaking off decades of heavily restrictive government controls. New media and the Internet have provided a long sought public space for media professionals, citizens, and

opposition groups to report information and news, exchange views, and organize their supporters.

Compelling ideas are infectious. They always have been. Today, immediate and widespread access to information allows ideas to circulate virally. It empowers people to participate in the public lives of their countries. It equalizes voices. The Internet has made it possible to reach more people in more places. But it has also shifted power and influence to such an extent that it is necessary to engage with a much wider spectrum of public voices worldwide.

So we, at the Department of State, are doing everything we can to connect with people – all 6.8 billion of them – to create a new environment that will better ensure the stability and security of our country, our region, and our world. We take this mission very seriously. We recognize that government-to-government diplomacy by itself is no longer enough. From Secretary Clinton on down, we are embracing new media and new technologies as vital tools to reach people at all levels. New media and connective technologies also enhance our ability to listen. That is the number one improvement to our 21st century public diplomacy toolkit.

Anyone with a mobile phone or an Internet connection has the ability to communicate with us.

This feedback is an incredibly valuable resource – whether the feedback is positive or negative – because it allows us to better understand how our actions and decisions are being interpreted by people and governments around the world. Our challenge now is to incorporate constructive criticism from these new voices into our decision-making, and to build response mechanisms as a limited number of diplomatic interlocutors engage with a much larger number of public voices.

New media support our commitment to accessibility, transparency, and the free flow of information. They allow us to pursue our shared goals in dialogue and partnership. And with serious effort on our part, they help us build good will and connections directly between people.

We view these weeks leading up to World Press Freedom Day 2011 as an opportunity to celebrate the fundamental principles of a free press, to discuss how changes in the media affect how we engage with the world, to analyze, evaluate, and elevate the status of press freedom worldwide, paying tribute to the sacrifices made in the pursuit of freedom of expression and assembly on and offline. We look forward to hearing from you.

Source: <http://goo.gl/tpz0B>

### U.S. Embassy Jakarta Mission Statement

Based on mutual respect and shared values, the U.S. Mission works with Indonesia to strengthen democracy, sustain the environment, promote prosperity, enhance understanding and ensure security for our people, our nations, and our region.

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## 21st Century Media: New Frontiers, New Barriers



World Press Freedom Day was established by the United Nations (UN) two years after a joint

conference between UNESCO and the United Nations Department of Public Information in Windhoek, Namibia, in 1991. The conference called upon the UN to establish a day dedicated to celebrating the fundamental principles of press freedom and to honoring journalists who have lost their lives in pursuit of their profession. In 2011, World Press Freedom Day marks the twentieth anniversary of that Declaration.

Recalling Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was adopted by the United Nations in 1948 and which states that the fundamental right of freedom of expression encompasses the freedom “to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers,” World Press Freedom Day is celebrated across the globe every May 3rd.

This year’s three-day celebration of World Press Freedom Day, whose theme is 21st Century Media: New Frontiers, New Barriers, will culminate with the award of the UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize on May 3, in Washington, DC, United States. In 2011, the focus of the celebration is the potential of the Internet and digital platforms as well as more established forms of journalism to contribute to freedom of expression, democratic governance, and sustainable development. The occasion will also serve to call on Member States to reaffirm and implement their international commitments to guarantee and promote freedom of expression on the Internet and to remind civil society organizations, individuals, and other relevant stakeholders of their central part in furthering the Internet as a global public resource. Twenty years after the call for the establishment of World Press Freedom Day, the arrival of the digital revolution—the

evolution of the Internet, the emergence of new forms of media, and the rise of online social networks—has reshaped the media landscape and made “the press” of 2011 something that those gathered in Windhoek in 1991 could not have imagined.

It is well recognized that the growth of the Internet has greatly expanded the ability of individuals, groups, and others to enhance their freedom of expression and their rights to seek, receive and impart information, as recognized by international human rights standards. New media platforms have made it possible for almost any citizen to communicate to a large audience. For example, bloggers around the world are challenging authorities, exposing corruption, and expressing their opinions via the Internet.

These new frontiers of media have enriched news and information resources and reshaped what has traditionally been the realm of print press, broadcasters, and news agencies.

Even as new frontiers are being forged by these 21st Century media, however new barriers and new attempts to block, filter, and censor information are being created. Yet, proliferation of the Internet, social networks, and new-generation mobile telephony raises new concerns for privacy and security of users.

UNESCO, as the UN Agency with the mandate to promote freedom of expression, recognizes that this right is central to building strong democracies, contributing to good governance, promoting civic participation and the rule of law, and encouraging human development and security. The right to freedom of expression applies as much to the Internet as to the more traditional forms of media—press, radio, and television. The challenge is to optimize fully the potential of the Internet and digital media without compromising civil liberties.

For more details please visit <http://goo.gl/uZXYk>

Related articles:

- New Frontiers of News Media: New Forms of Expression, Journalism, and Participation.  
Link: <http://goo.gl/xjf6g>
- A Legal and Regulatory Perspective: Better Protection for Freedom of Expression in the Age of Digital Communications.  
Link: <http://goo.gl/dXRXp>
- New Barriers: Online Blocking, Censorship, Surveillance, Safety of Journalists and Bloggers.  
Link: <http://goo.gl/Swaja>
- New Trends of Journalism: New Business Models, Media Ownership, and Preserving Editorial Independence.  
Link: <http://goo.gl/E1HWK>



### Tosca Santoso, Winner of A Knight International Journalism Award 2010



Tosca Santoso is the founder of KBR68H, the first independent news agency radio in Indonesia. He started it in 1999. Supported by seven team members, KBR68H initially produced a 15 minute news program and aired it to seven radio stations each day.

Now, KBR68H is the largest radio network in Indonesia. Every day it transmits eight hours of news programs to over 720 radio stations reaching 22 million listeners.

For more details, please visit <http://goo.gl/mvsC1>

## Indonesian Experts Participating in Journalism Awards Night Flagged

1 November 2010, Jakarta

The first Television Journalism Awards for Peace and Multiculturalism creates an impetus for better quality television products that promote diversity and peace.

Indonesian experts participating in journalism awards night flagged the propensity of inflammatory conflict reporting in traditional news media as being a odds with their responsibility toward the promotion of peace and pluralism. It is common practice for news broadcasts and "reality TV" shows to present live, uncensored violence. In the words of Director Garin Nugroho: 'Indonesia has lost professional journalism standards that could promote peace... the media has cheapened itself by creating and presenting products designed solely to increase ratings and profits.'

Garin and other media experts were speaking at the Television Journalism Awards for Peace and Multiculturalism in Jakarta on September 30, 2010. The awards were organized by the SET Foundation under a grant from the USAID SERASI project. The awards, which were attended by representatives from Indonesia's television networks and other media outlets, serve as an acute reminder of the



*The winners of the first Television Journalism Awards for Peace and Multiculturalism, representing Trans7 and DAAI TV.*

importance of peace journalism in a diverse society like Indonesia.

Out of dozens of nominees, Trans7 was awarded first prize for their coverage of East Timor and East Nusa Tenggara families separated after the independence of East Timor from Indonesia who now meet on the international border to maintain their relationship. Second prize went to DAAI TV for its report on a traditional Sundanese musical group whose members are composed solely of Chinese Indonesian performers. The pairing is very unusual, given the common perception that the Chinese Indonesian ethnics do not normally share enthusiasm for traditional arts and existing social schism

between the Indonesian-Chinese with the other ethnics. "It is imperative to support quality journalism in Indonesia and it's high time to encourage the media to package the news through the perspective of peace rather than war, especially in the context of pluralism and multiculturalism in Indonesia," said Agus Sudibyo. In the context of diversity in Indonesian society which can be vulnerable to manipulation, it is important to have media support the unity of the nation.

Dadang Rahmat Hidayat, the chairman of the Indonesian Broadcasting Commission (KPI), said journalism in Indonesia must evolve beyond sensationalism. "We have not reached the level of journalism that is responsible and ethical, and promotes peace and multiculturalism," he said. The SET Foundation organizers said they hoped the awards could help steer Indonesian media away from sensational reporting and toward thoughtful dialogue, and judging by the enthusiastic response from the media that attended the event, they are already on the track to success.

SERASI is a USAID-funded project focused on creating stable and democratic communities. It is implemented by International Relief and Development (IRD). Source: <http://goo.gl/3mRRJ>

## Map of Press Freedom 2010

The Freedom of the Press index an annual survey of media independence in 195 countries and territories, is at the core of Freedom House's press freedom project. The annual index contains the most comprehensive data set available on global media freedom and is a key resource for scholars, policymakers, and international institutions. The index assesses the degree of print, broadcast, and internet freedom in every country in the world, analyzing the events of each calendar year. It provides numerical rankings and rates each country's media as "Free," "Partly Free," or "Not Free." Country narratives examine the legal environment for the media, political pressures that influence reporting, and economic factors that affect access to information.



### Freedom of The Press - Indonesia (2010)

Status: Partly Free  
 Legal Environment: 18  
 Political Environment: 19  
 Economic Environment: 15  
 Total Score: 52

Indonesia's vibrant and independent media environment was offset in 2009 by the continued use of criminal defamation laws and the 2008 Information and Electronic Transfers (ITE) Law to curtail freedom of expression in electronic and social media. Violence against journalists declined slightly in 2009, and freedoms of speech and the press are guaranteed by the constitution and the 1999 Press Law, but media activists expressed concern about proposed and existing legislation that threatened these rights. A state secrets bill faced such strong resistance from civil society groups that discussions on it were suspended at the end of the year.

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## Freedom on the Net 2011: Indonesia

As internet and mobile phone use explodes worldwide, governments are adopting new and multiple means for controlling these technologies that go far beyond technical filtering. Freedom on the Net report provides a comprehensive look at these emerging tactics. Below is the report on Indonesia.

### INDONESIA

POPULATION: 235.5 million

INTERNET PENETRATION: 18 percent

WEB 2.0 APPLICATIONS BLOCKED: No

SUBSTANTIAL POLITICAL CENSORSHIP: No

BLOGGERS/ONLINE USERS ARRESTED: Yes

PRESS FREEDOM STATUS: Partly Free

Digital communication in Indonesia has developed rapidly since 1994, when the first commercial internet-service provider (ISP) introduced it to the public. This

growth has expanded avenues for freedom of expression and access to information for ordinary Indonesians. In particular, the popularity of social-networking applications has grown exponentially, with Indonesia becoming home to some of the largest contingents of Twitter and Facebook users in the world.

However, Indonesian authorities also have sought to regulate online content in recent years. In the process, a number of actions have been taken, including passage of the Law on Information and Electronic Transactions (ITE Law) of 2008. In addition, the government has considered implementing regulations that would require ISPs to filter certain content, including information of political consequence.

Together, these measures have raised concerns that in the near future greater restrictions on internet freedom could

emerge. Bloggers, civil society groups, and ISPs have resisted such efforts via online mobilization and advocacy, in some instances successfully fending off new restrictions or reversing existing ones.

	2009	2011
Internet Freedom Status	n/a	Partly Free
Obstacles to Access	n/a	14
Limits on Content	n/a	13
Violation on User Rights	n/a	19
Total	n/a	46

Read more at: <http://goo.gl/mNquR>

Get the worldwide report at:  
<http://goo.gl/inugD>

## Resources on Media, Press, and Journalism

### WEBSITES

#### CAPACITY BUILDING AND NETWORKING

##### International Center for Journalists (ICFJ)

ICFJ is a non-profit, professional organization that believes in the power of journalism to promote positive change. ICFJ site offers a variety of training materials for journalists, ranges from basic skills of journalism to new-media training. Some materials are downloadable for free at: <http://goo.gl/jIly1>

##### International Journalists' Network (IJNet)

IJNet.org is a global website for journalists and media managers to learn about training and networking opportunities. Subscribe to its free weekly e-mail bulletin reports via: <http://ijnet.org/>

### INDEPENDENT MEDIA /FREE PRESS

#### Center for International Media Assistance (CIMA)

CIMA works to improve U.S. efforts to promote independent media in developing countries worldwide. The section of Country Profile in the site provides the compilation of data on the media in those developing countries. Get this data at: <http://goo.gl/5TgOW>

#### Media Sustainability Index

IREX's Media Sustainability Index (MSI) provides in-depth analyses of the conditions for independent media in 80 countries across the world. Get the report at: <http://goo.gl/ToYe1>

#### Reporters Without Borders Press Freedom Index

This index measures the violations of press freedom in the world. It reflects the degree of freedom that journalists and news organizations enjoy in each country, and the efforts made by the authorities to respect and ensure respect for this freedom. Report is accessible at: <http://goo.gl/kOov>

### VARIOUS TOPICS

#### Broadcasting Board of Governors

The Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) encompasses all U.S. civilian international broadcasting, including the Voice of America (VOA), Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL), Radio Free Asia (RFA), Radio and TV Martí, and the Middle East Broadcasting Networks (MBN)—Radio Sawa and Alhurra Television. Read more at: <http://www.bbg.gov/>

#### Journalism Resources Homepage

Over 40 annotated pages of resources compiled in support of academic journalism departments and professional journalists. Link: <http://goo.gl/mLJc>

#### Poynter Institute

An extensive list of online resources, bibliographies, and other information relevant to journalists. Find it here: <http://www.poynter.org/>

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## Resources on Media, Press and Journalism

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### E-PUBLICATIONS

#### Defining Internet Freedom (eJournalUSA)

Information has never been so free, but threats to the free flow of information on the Internet are growing. How governments and societies confront new and transformative Internet technologies is the subject of this eJournalUSA. Find the journal at: <http://goo.gl/aoiJ5>

#### Edward R. Murrow, Journalism at Its Best

The career of Edward R. Murrow, the eminent broadcast journalist, is discussed in this publication as an example of the essential role the free press plays in a democratic society. With his reports from London during World War II and his exposé of Senator McCarthy's anticommunist campaign in the 1950s, Murrow showed how a fearless reporter can use journalistic skills in the public's service in times of crisis. Complete story at:

<http://goo.gl/NFENW>



**Handbook of Independent Journalism.** This handbook covers the ins and outs of what every professional journalist should know — from how to research, write, and edit a story to how to write headlines, choose graphics, and select quotes and sound bites. Print, radio, TV, and Web-based or online journalism forms are discussed in detail, as well as the skills required in beat reporting. The handbook is available at:

<http://goo.gl/4ss3m>

#### Media Making Change (eJournalUSA)

New media technologies give average citizens access to vast amounts of information and broad networks of people. People can use these tools to pursue social and political agendas of their own making. This edition of eJournal USA shows how this new empowerment is

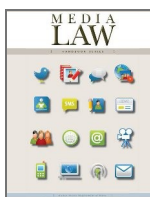
influencing nations in various parts of the world. Link to the journal:

<http://goo.gl/plglZ>

#### Media Emerging (eJournalUSA)

Innovation in information technologies has thrust the world into an era of democratic media in which people have access to news and information unbound from traditional barriers of time and geography. Innovation gives rise to new media formats with new models for information distribution, consumption, and use. Traditional lines between the audience and media institutions are crossed as citizens gain access to platforms from which to express their own ideas and opinions, circumventing media corporations and governments, the long-standing gatekeepers of information. Read more at:

<http://goo.gl/u37tC>



#### Media Law Handbook

What are the privileges and responsibilities of a free press? In this handbook, Professor Jane Kirtley, Silha Professor of Media Ethics and Law at the University of Minnesota, explores how free societies answer this question. Link:

<http://goo.gl/YaXrw>

#### A Responsible Press Office: An Insiders Guide

A how-to publication for government leaders and public information officials who want to create an effective mechanism of communication between the media and the government. It is authored by Marguerite Hoxie Sullivan and other top-level U.S. government spokespersons. Link:

<http://goo.gl/A6ffw>

#### Seeking Free & Responsible Media

It has long been the policy of the U.S. government to support the development of open and responsible media abroad and to assist in building the infrastructure needed for a free press to operate — legislative infrastructure, financial independ-

ence, transparency in government, and journalists trained in objective and fair reporting. Achieving a free and responsible media is a constant, challenging, vital, and ongoing activity. Read more at:

<http://goo.gl/Ut9gl>

### IRC RESOURCES

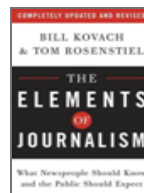


**The Vanishing Newspaper: Saving Journalism in the Information Age** by Philip Meyer, 2009. ISBN: 978-0826218582

#### Encyclopedia of American Journalism

by Stephen L. Vaughn, 2008  
ISBN: 978-0-415-96950-5

**Grassroots Journalism** by Eesha William, 2007. ISBN: 1-89184301X



**The Elements of Journalism: What News People Should Know and The Public Should Expect** by Bill Kovach and Tom Rosenstiel, 2001. ISBN: 978-0609-806913

**American Journalism Review.** Published by University of Maryland, Philip Merrill College of Journalism.



**Columbia Journalism Review: Strong Press, Strong Democracy.** Published by Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism.

For more titles of IRC collection, please check our online catalog:

<http://69.63.217.22/U10086Staff/OPAC/index.asp>

**Disclaimer:** Books, articles, and websites described in the Information Package present a diversity of views in order to keep our IRC users abreast of current issues in the United States. These items represent the views and opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect official U.S. Government policy.

## Information Resource Center

The U.S. Embassy's Information Resource Center (IRC) in Jakarta is a specialized reference and research facility. Our goal is to provide you with accurate, up-to-date and authoritative information about U.S. society and policy materials, cover such topic as U.S. foreign policy, government, economics and trade, history, social and cultural issues.

The IRC collection includes an up-to-date reference collection, a periodicals section, and access to extensive online databases.

For details on reference and periodical collections, please check our online catalog at

<http://69.63.217.22/U10086Staff/OPAC/index.asp>.

For all IRC information products, including this info package are available online at: <http://jakarta.usembassy.gov/infoproduct.html>

Information queries may be submitted to us by phone, fax, mail, and e-mail. You are also welcome to visit us by appointment for personal research assistance.

### Contact Info:

Information Resource Center (IRC)  
Public Affairs Section  
U.S. Embassy Jakarta  
Jl. Medan Merdeka Selatan 4-5,  
Jakarta 10110, Indonesia  
Tel.: (021) 350-8467  
Fax: (021) 350-8466  
Email: [ircjakarta@state.gov](mailto:ircjakarta@state.gov)  
Website: <http://jakarta.usembassy.gov/irc.html>

Walk-in Visitors (by appointment only): Monday to Friday; from 07:30 to 16:00. We are closed on U.S. and Indonesian holidays (Link to the list of holidays: <http://goo.gl/Y99he>)

## U.S. Embassy Speaker Program with Dale Willman



A national award-winning correspondent and editor for more than 35 years, Dale Willman is a leading voice in environmental journalism. A Fulbright Fellow for the 2010-2011 academic year in Indonesia, he is researching noted British naturalist, Alfred Russel Wallace, and teaching environmental journalism and new media courses at Universitas Padjadjaran in Bandung.

Willman spent more than 10 years in various roles at National Public Radio (NPR) in Washington, D.C. His work was included in NPR's receipt of the 1991 duPont-Columbia Award for Excellence in Broadcast Journalism. He also shared a Peabody Award for his work on the Lost and Found Sound series broadcast on All Things Considered.

As a correspondent he won a national Edward R. Murrow Award for Investigative Reporting in 1998 for his CNN Radio series, Broadway's Dirty Little Secret. The series detailed environmental problems surrounding the production of Walt Disney's Beauty and the Beast on Broadway. Willman documented the health hazards faced by musicians who underwent a daily onslaught of chemicals from the pyrotechnic explosions that took place during the show. He was the only Environmental Correspondent in the history of CNN Radio.

While with CBS, Willman provided coverage of the White House, Capital Hill, the Pentagon and the State Department for CBS Radio stations.

As Managing Editor for the Great Lakes Radio Consortium for two years, Dale turned a small radio news service into a regional powerhouse.

Now, Willman runs his own production company and reports on environmental issues for a number of outlets. He also lectures and teaches on college campuses on numerous topics, from environmental journalism to diversity in the media, and podcasts for Slate.Com.

Willman has a master's degree in Environment and Community from Antioch University.

Source: <http://fieldnotes.tv/archives/305>

## Map of Press Freedom 2010

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In general, the Indonesian public can access a variety of news sources and perspectives, provided by a significant number of private media outlets. However, there is ongoing concern about the ability of large corporations and powerful individuals to control press content, either indirectly through the threat of lawsuits or directly through ownership.

The full report of Map of Press Freedom in Indonesia compiled by Freedom House currently available online at: <http://goo.gl/RogFc>

Tables and Charts of - Press Freedom Status By Country 1980-2010 currently available online at <http://goo.gl/mVOFm>

**More articles on media, journalism, press freedom related topics and/or other subjects are available at:**

**eLibraryUSA database**

**eLibrary USA consists of 20 databases of authoritative and continually updated information on various areas of interest. For details contact IRC at:  
Email: [ircjakarta@state.gov](mailto:ircjakarta@state.gov) | Phone: 021-350-8467**

**The free press is a cornerstone of democracy. People have a need to know. Journalists have a right to tell. A free Press, at its best, reveals the truth. — The Newseum, Washington, DC**